Characters

ALEX	THE LEADER OF THE PACK.
MAISIE	HIS WIFE, ABOUT 25.
IKKY	STOCKY BUT NOT MUSCULAR.
FUZZY	DARK, GOATEE, TATTOOS.
JESSE	YOUNG, DEVELOPING BODY BUILDER.
LUKE	NO-NONSENSE EAST COAST GUY.
THE MAN	LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL.

THE TIME: DECEMBER, 1956

THE PLACE: HONOLULU, LOWER INCOME SECTION OF THE CITY.

Act 1

"DEAD OF NIGHT" by EDWARD SAKAMOTO

ON A SIMPLE LIVING ROOM SET, A BODY PUNCHING BAG HANGS AT UPSTAGE RIGHT.

ALEX, IN PANTS AND UNDERSHIRT, RUNS ON WITH BOXING GLOVES AND SMASHES THE BAG LIKE A DETERMINED BOXER IN TRAINING.

HE PUMMELS THE BAG MERCILESSLY, DRIVEN BY FRUSTRATION AND HOSTILITY. HE STOPS AFTER DELIVERING AN IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF PUNCHES.

THEN HE SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE.

ALEX

Wat you going do wen you gotta scrape fo' every penny? Till your fingas raw and all cover up wit' blood. 'S how hard living in Hawaii wen you no mo' union backing you up. Look at my old man. Da bugga bust his ass all his life and fo' wat? Measly Social Security and no pension from da cheapskate company he went work for. Why? Because he neva get one union working for him. And wat my muddah get now working as one cafeteria worker. Poor pay and lousy working conditions. Why? Because she no mo' union behind her too. So gotta do someting about dat. Right now da only people I can depend on is my friends, guys I work wit'. We believe in da same ting, we stand togedda fo' da union.

ALEX EXITS AS MAISIE ENTERS. A GOOD-LOOKING WOMAN WITH PLAIN TASTE.

MAISIE

Yeah, I tink I went marry too young. But if you see da right guy standing dere in front of you and he say he like marry you. Gotta say yes, eh. You dunno if you going get second chance. Aeh, you tink good fun o' wat? Hard work. Dat's why I no mo' time fool around wit' odda girls to talk about jewelry, makeup, and go to parties wearing fancy dresses wit' all da crinoline like girls who went to Punahou. "Oh, wat color is dat lipstick? It looks so divine. . .And dose heavenly shoes, dey match so beautifully wit' your darling purse." Make me wanna puke.

AS MAISIE LEAVES, IKKY ENTERS. HE HAS A SLOVENLY APPEARANCE. HE STANDS AT STAGE LEFT.

IKKY

I know wat I look like. No let da way you see me, fool you. 'Cause I can fool you. You look at me and you see wat? I no care wat you tink. I tell you who me. I work hard, take care my family. Sure, I like get my fun too. No can blame me. IF I fool around little bit, no harm nobody. My wife, she get da face of somebody who wen' run face first against one screen door. But so wat? My kids look like da butt end of one donkey. But I no care. Da important ting is dat they look like me.

IKKY EXITS AS FUZZY ENTERS AT STAGE RIGHT.

FUZZY, A KOREAN WAR VETERAN. WEARS A MILITARY FATIGUE JACKET.

FUZZY

I get dis one ting in my head all da time. Wen I was in Korea. We wasn't ready. 1950 we da Occupation troops in Japan, fat and lazy. Den the North Koreans come down south and shoot up da place. Da Army send us ova, and we dunno wat da hell we doing. No tanks, no antitank guns, telephone lines cut, radios wit' lot of interference. Da rain. da damn rain pouring down, and the North Koreans driving toward us wit' tanks. Tanks! And we no mo' tanks. We only get our mortars and machine guns, but da enemy keep coming. I see my guys retreating. Everybody running. South Korean refugees in their carts and animals trying to get away, our guys running past dem, throwing away our equipment. You see wat I get in my head all da time? Das wen I said, no more. I neva going retreat from anyting again. I make my stand no matter wat. Understand? No matter wat.

FUZZY EXITS AS JESSE ENTERS.

GOOD-LOOKING, SENSITIVE BUT PHYSICALLY STRONG. A YOUNG BODY BUILDER. LIKES TO ADMIRE HIMSELF IN THE MIRROR.

JESSE

Yeah, I look in da mirror a lot, but 's not because I tink I hot shit. Wen you building up your body, you gotta check on da muscles all da time, looking fo' da definition. 'S da most important ting, definiton. You gotta eat lotta protein, like steaks. Beef, red meat. 'S why dey say, you gotta beef up your body. If I not working, I gotta go to da gym. If I no go, I go crazy. You know my big bruddah, Benji, he paralyzed from da waist down. It's rough. One drunk driva wen' slam into his car, broke up his body. Das why I no drink. I hate drunks. One time I wen' beat up one drunk guy just because he was drunk. I dunno. 'S da way I tink. My muddah and me gotta help take care Benji because his head not too sharp. Da accident, you know, fuck up his head too.

JESSE EXITS.

THE MAN ENTERS WITH ALEX, NOW WEARING A SHIRT, FOLLOWING.

MAN

How you, Alex?

ALEX

Okay.

MAN

Feeling good?

ALEX

Not bad.

MAN

How your wife?

ALEX

She doing okay.

MAN

Pregnant, eh?

ALEX

About two months.

MAN

Good, good. I like my guys get married and raise families. If you get kids, you settle down mo'. 'S all good. I get boy and girl. I tell you, raising one family not easy. Cost money. But I like my working guys get kids, so dey take tings mo' serious. So wen I tell you I get one job fo' you, I know you going do da best you can fo' your wife and kid. I like you get two, t'ree kids. No stop at one.

ALEX

Where going get da money raise kids?

MAN

Aeh, you telling me. Shit, life ain't easy fo' working stiffs like us. But we getting betta, eh. We getting stronger, our union not taking crap from management. And now da union gotta grow, spread all ova da islands. Da bigger we get, da stronger we get, da mo' we can get fo' our working guys. All dese company bosses getting rich on our sweat. Not fair, man, not fair. So we gotta even da score little bit. We unionize all da companies dat no mo' union and we get so fucking strong, we can put one stranglehold on da bastards and dey no can do nuttin' but accept our demands. 'S how gotta be, Alex, 's how gotta be. You going be doing yourself lotta good wen you do extra work fo' da union. I know I can depend on you. You going get big bonus fo' you and your boys. You get your boys, right?

ALEX

Yeah.

MAN

You can trust dem?

ALEX

No problem. I make sure we do da job, so you no need worry.

MAN

Aeh, I always worry. 'S my numba one job: worry, worry, worry. Who your boys?

ALEX

One guy is Ikky.

IKKY SITS IN A SPOTLIGHT, FACING THE AUDIENCE. HE FIDGETS.

HE SPEAKS TO UNSEEN PERSONS.

IKKY

Who? . . . No, I dunno him. I no pal around wit' haoles . . . So wat about 'um? . . . He was one asshole, right? No sweat off my nose.

ALEX

Da second guy is Fuzzy, Tough. Get one wife but no children.

SPOTLIGHT DOWN ON IKKY, UP ON FUZZY.

FUZZY

Who? . . . Haole guy? I dunno haole guys . . . I dunno wat I was doing dat night. Too long ago. . I dunno. Maybe I was drinking dat night. I like drink. . . . I dunno nuttin' . . . Yeah, I know Alex. So wat? Of course, I know his wife, Maisie. She make ono kimchee.

LIGHT DOWN ON FUZZY, UP ON JESSE.

ALEX

Da last one is Jesse. Quiet but you can depend on him. Not married. Real exercise nut. 'S all he care about.

JESSE SITS QUIETLY IN THE CHAIR.

JESSE

Wat you like know? . . . Curtis Bell? Curtis Bell? Who dat? . . . No, I dunno da guy . . . I know Alex yeah . . . No, he not my friend, we only work togedda.

LIGHT DOWN ON JESSE.

MAN

You get one mo' guy.

ALEX

Who?

MAN

One haole from da mainland.

ALEX

Wat fo'?

MAN

Insurance. He know his business. Expert.

ALEX

No good.

MAN

You guys gotta listen to him.

ALEX

Bad idea.

MAN

Too late. His name is Luke. L-U-K-E. Luke. Dey say dis bugga is good. He get lotta experience in dis kine job on da mainland. So you listen to him and everyting going be okay. Yeah, da guy is damn good. Mainland guys dey know wat dey doing. You can learn from dem.

ALEX

I no can trust him. No can trust haoles, you know dat. Dey diff'rent from us guys.

MAN

You get nuttin' to say about dat. Dis haole is mo' important dan you. He get credentials. From da highest level. Aeh, I trust him mo' dan I trust you. Undastand? No turn your back on da union. You told me da union is your life. So now you prove it. Dis is one war going on. Da union--or da companies dat no like da union come in. Greedy businessmen who suck da blood of working people like us. Rememba dis, companies no mo' heart. Once dey figga you no can make money fo' dem, dey cut off your balls and kick you out on your ass. I hate da bastards. So we going make 'um pay.

ALEX

Right.

MAN

No screw up, Alex. I tell you right now, no screw up. We get everyting set up real easy fo' you guys. Dis one no sweat job. So no screw up.

LIGHT GOES DOWN ON SCENE.

LIGHT GOES UP ON LIVING ROOM. AT CENTER STAGE IS A ROUND TABLE WITH A COUPLE OF WOODEN CHAIRS AND THREE METAL CHAIRS. THERE IS ALSO A SMALL COUCH.

MAISIE ENTERS IN A SIMPLE HOUSE DRESS.

MAISIE

Alex, from now on, you gotta help me clean da kitchen too . . . You hear me? . . . Sometimes I wonda why I married you . .Mo' betta marry one rich guy who can give me jewelry, brand-new car, big house wit' servants . . . Wat did I see in you, Alex? Tell me.

ALEX

(emerging)

Wat?

MAISIE

Wat?

ALEX

You said someting. Wat?

MAISIE

Tings gotta change now, now dat we . . . you know, okay? . . . Alex.

ALEX

Come here and talk.

MAISIE

You wen' tell da guys about me?

ALEX

Wat about you?

MAISIE

So Ikky coming, who else?

ALEX LOOKS PREOCCUPIED.

ALEX

Wat?

MAISIE

I said, how many guys?

ALEX

How many guys wat?

MAISIE

No act dumb.

ALEX

Wat you talking about?

MAISIE

Who da hell--

ALEX

If you going talk, come in here and tell me wat you ---

SHE ENTERS LIVING ROOM.

MAISIE

Ikky coming tonight, right?

ALEX

Yeah.

MAISIE

Who else?

ALEX

Jesse and Fuzzy, and one mo' guy.

MAISIE

Who?

ALEX

You dunno who.

MAISIE

And I gotta cook fo' dese guys?

ALEX

You not paying attention. I said, no worry about eats. I get da beer and peanuts, 's enuff.

MAISIE

I can make someting.

ALEX

No need.

MAISIE

I can make some pupus. You like I fry some Portagee sausage and maybe take out some kakimochi and--

ALEX

Listen, Maisie, no bodda. Just leave us alone. .

MAISIE

You guys playing poker tonight? Not your regular night.

ALEX

No poker. We get business to talk ova.

MAISIE

Wat kine business?

ALEX

Business wit' da guys.

MAISIE

How come I dunno da odda guy?

ALEX

Maisie, you no shut up you going be sorry. No make me shut you up.

MAISIE

Wat, wat you going do? Hit me? You know betta dan dat. . . So who da guy coming?

ALEX

Shaddup!

MAISIE

No shaddup me. I going get one baby, our baby and you talk li'dat to me. I hate you. Treat me mo' nice o' else.

ALEX

O' else wat?

MAISIE

You no care about da baby?

ALEX

Sure, I care. But I worry too. Dat means we going get one mo' mout' to feed.

MAISIE

Baby no eat dat much.

ALEX

Going cost plenny money. Maybe I gotta get one second job, I dunno.

MAISIE SITS ON HIS LAP AND FEELS HER STOMACH.

MAISIE

I can feel da baby getting big inside.

ALEX

Yeah? Only two months. No look like you pregnant.

MAISIE

Well, I can tell you da exact time I wen' get knock up.

ALEX

Wen?

MAISIE

On da beach Makapuu side.

ALEX

Dat night?

MAISIE

You rememba?

ALEX

Yeah.

ALEX EXITS TO BEDROOM.

MAISIE

I going make some boil peanuts.

ALEX

Wat?

MAISIE

I get raw peanuts so I going boil 'um.

ALEX

(reentering)

No.

MAISIE

Wat dat?

ALEX

Wat look like? Can peanuts.

MAISIE

But I going make boil peanuts.

ALEX

Fo'get it.

MAISIE

Why?

ALEX

No need do dat fo' da guys.

MAISIE

I not busy. My boil peanuts, Ikky like 'um. He always say how good my--

ALEX

Okay, okay, make your boil peanuts.

MAISIE

I going fry some Portagee sausage fo' da guys too.

ALEX

No, no. If you like, take out da kim chee you wen' make.

MAISIE

You sure? Not too stink?

ALEX

Da guys like your kim chee.

MAISIE

Going be smelly, 's okay?

ALEX

I like 'um smelly. Stink up da whole house, I no care. But wen da guys come, I like you go in da bedroom and no bodda us.

MAISIE

I like stay and listen.

ALEX

No can.

MAISIE

Why?

ALEX

Tonight is only business. Important business. Not fo' wahine to listen to.

MAISIE

You guys going talk dirty stuff? No bodda me.

ALEX

Yeah, yeah, we going talk dirty so go stay in da bedroom. You my wife, I no like you hear all da kine crap.

MAISIE

No bull lie me. Dis about da union tonight. Nowdays everyting about da union.

ALEX

You know why?

MAISIE

No, why?

ALEX

I doing all dis union stuff fo' you and da baby. Now is da time fo' da union to take control and no let management kick us in da ass all da time. Wit' out da union, we nuttin'. Management, all dey care about is making money fo' demself. Dey no care about us working stiffs.

MAISIE

So? Your working place get union.

ALEX

But we gotta unionize da odda companies in da islands, not just us. Da bigga da union, da stronga da workers like us. If we get big, we can shut down da whole damn territory if we like. We gotta get strong like da ILWU. Dose guys know wat dey doing.

MAISIE

So you guys going out tonight and do wat?

ALEX

Betta if you dunno.

MAISIE

No get in trouble.

ALEX

No trouble.

MAISIE

You promise? Alex, I said you promise? Tink of da baby.

ALEX

'S wat I doing, fo' us, fo' da future. Da union is our future. Da union going take care us. But first we gotta take care of da union. See, if no mo' union, da supervisor can fire me and I no can do nuttin'. But if get union, management no can do anyting dey like. All because I get da union behind me.

TEARS WELL UP IN MAISIE'S EYES.

ALEX

No cry, baby, you gotta be strong. Aeh, I know how tough on you. But no can help. People like us we gotta fight fo' everyting. Nobody going give us all da stuff we like. I know sometimes I no say tings you like hear. But someday I going make it up to you.

ALEX

I going rise up in da union ranks, Maisie. I going be one big shot in da union someday. You going be happy. You going be proud. But to reach da top, sometimes you gotta do some stuff, tings dat you not going do every time. 'S all I can tell you now. I can depend on you? Huh? I can depend on you?

THERE IS KNOCKING ON THE DOOR.

THE KNOCKING BECOMES URGENT.

ALEX

(yelling at the door)

Shaddup!

ALEX OPENS THE DOOR.

IKKY ENTERS QUICKLY, WEARING A BASEBALL CAP AND HEAVY JACKET.

IKKY

Why you took so fucking long open da door?

ALEX

Shut your trap.

IKKY

Aeh, people could see me out dere, man.

ALEX

So? You my friend, you visiting me, wat da big deal?

IKKY

Hi, Maisie.

MAISIE

Hi, Ikky.

MAISIE

Wat in da bag?

IKKY

I wen' bring doughnuts.

MAISIE TAKES THE BAG AND LOOKS IN.

MAISIE

You love your doughnuts, eh. I can make coffee.

ALEX

No need.

MAISIE

No trouble.

ALEX

You like beer?

IKKY

I like beer and coffee.

ALEX

Sit down.

IKKY LOOKS AT THE CHAIRS, SITS ON A METAL ONE.

ALEX

Sit on da good chair.

IKKY

Dis good, dis good.

MAISIE ENTERS THE KITCHEN.

IKKY LOOKS TO MAKE SURE MAISIE CAN'T HEAR.

IKKY

So?

ALEX

So wat?

IKKY

Tonight, eh?

ALEX DOESN'T ANSWER.

IKKY

On da phone, you said, "Ikky, come ova tonight." 'S all you said, but right away I figga, tonight da night.

MAISIE BRINGS A BOTTLE OF BEER TO IKKY.

IKKY

T'anks, Maisie.

MAISIE RETURNS TO THE KITCHEN.

ALEX

Tonight.

IKKY

I told you, eh, I told you. You neva say one mo' word, you just hang up, but I tinking, yeah, gotta be. Why he call fo' if not . . . You no can fool me, I know, I know, yeah, yeah. . .

ALEX'S ICY STARE STOPS IKKY'S YAKKING.

IKKY

You wen' call Fuzzy and Jesse? . . . I dunno about Jesse. Da bugga little young, eh? I mean, you tink he okay if tings get tough? I no like tings go wrong, wat you tink? Important, eh, wat we going do? I mean, you know . . . you can depend on me.

ALEX

Nuttin' wrong wit' Jesse. Da guy I worry about is you. You wen' gain mo' weight, eh. You outta condition. Lemme see. C'mon.

HE THROWS IKKY THE GLOVES AND STANDS BEHIND THE BOXING BAG.

ALEX

Warm up.

IKKY

Aeh, rememba da time you, me and Fuzzy went see Wildcat Kim fight? Da bugga tough, eh. We need him tonight back us up.

IKKY GETS THE GLOVES ON AND PUNCHES THE BAG LIGHTLY AND EASILY.

ALEX

Aeh, you one sissy o' wat? Les go, les go! Show me someting. One-two, one-two, faster, faster, no give up!

IKKY IS MORE AGGRESSIVE NOW, PUNCHING, WEAVING, PUNCHING. AFTER ABOUT 15 SECONDS, HE STOPS.

IKKY

Aeh, time out, time out.

ALEX

Wat you mean time out. No time out. No mo' condition o' wat? How da hell you going do anyting tonight?

IKKY

Wat? We going get big fight? I tought was going be easy.

ALEX

Too much doughnuts. Get in shape. Sweat off some of da fat.

IKKY

Aeh, dis body no mo' fat. Only muscle. Watch dis, no give chance, man.

ALEX

Hit 'um, show 'um who da boss! Left-right, go, go!

IKKY POUNDS THE BAG REPEATEDLY, THEN MISSES A PUNCH AND FALLS TO THE GROUND.

ALEX

Look at you. Lose to one punching bag.

MAISIE BRINGS IKKY A MUG OF COFFEE.

IKKY

Coffee break, coffee break. T'anks, Maisie. Alex, no wear me out. Bumbai I no mo' energy fo' tonight.

MAISIE

Energy to do wat?

IKKY

Wat? You neva tell Maisie?

MAISIE

Tell me wat?

ALEX

Maisie, we wen' talk already.

SHE RETURNS TO THE KITCHEN.

IKKY

So us four guys going get--

ALEX

Five guys.

IKKY

Five? Who, wat?

ALEX

You dunno da guy.

IKKY

Wat guy? Tell me da guy. If I dunno da guy, I no can trust 'um.

ALEX

No worry.

IKKY

Why no worry. Fuck it, Alex, fuck it. why we need one nodda guy? Why you neva tell me befo' dis? Why surprise me? I no like dis kine last minute shit.

ALEX

No can help.

IKKY

Why, tell me why? No good, man, no damn good. How we going trust one guy we dunno? You know him?

ALEX

No. One haole guy.

IKKY

Wat? One haole? And you dunno him? C'mon, Alex, wat da hell, man.

ALEX

The guy came from da mainland.

IKKY

Mo' worse. We no need one mainland haole.

ALEX

He get experience in dis kine stuff.

IKKY

So wat? We know wat we doing.

ALEX

You neva know wat da hell going on. 'S why you gotta listen to me. I give you da answers and you listen and shut up.

IKKY

You tink Hawaii going be one state?

ALEX

Wat you care?

IKKY

I ask you one question. You said you give me da answers. Now I listen and shut up fo' your answer.

ALEX

How da hell I know?

IKKY

You tink Communists taking ova Hawaii?

ALEX

Wat you care?

IKKY

Aeh, me one American. I no like Russia tell us wat to do.

ALEX

Neva happen.

IKKY

Da ILWU full of Communists, yeah?

ALEX

Who knows.

IKKY

Aeh, I tought you going give me da answers?

ALEX

You not funny.

IKKY

I tink get too many Reds in Hawaii. 'S da trouble, Alex, we get too many Commies here. I no like Commies. Dey like turn us into Russia. 'S why had da hearings on Communists.

ALEX

Aeh, maybe Commies know wat dey talking about.

IKKY

Alex, wat da hell you saying?

ALEX

Communists care about da people, da working guys like us.

IKKY

No say dat. Maybe somebody listening. Maybe dis place bugged.

ALEX

Listen, Communists da enemy of management. Dey cannot be all bad, you get dat?

IKKY

Aeh, you fo'get da movie "Big Jim McLain" wit' John Wayne? Da bugga wen' broke up one Communist spy ring right here in Hawaii.

ALEX

'S was one dumb, stupid movie.

IKKY

Alex, no talk li'dat. 'S was one John Wayne movie, da guy not going make one movie if not true.

ALEX

Aeh, no make da Commies da bad guys.

IKKY

I know you not one Commie, Alex, You just fooling around. I no care but watch out wat you say to odda people.

ANOTHER KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

ALEX OPENS THE DOOR AS FUZZY ENTERS.

IKKY

Aeh, Fuzzy, you one Commie?

FUZZY

Commie? Wat you talking about?

IKKY

I like know if you one Commie?

FUZZY

Mind your own damn business.

IKKY

You no can say, "No, Ikky, me not one Commie." You no can say dat? Do you swear dat you not one Commie. You can swear to dat?

FUZZY

Yeah, I not one fucking Commie. Okay?

IKKY

You eva been one Commie?

FUZZY

Aeh, wat da hell wrong wit' him?

ALEX

He tink he one senator.

FUZZY

Aeh, Ikky, I neva going vote fo' you.

IKKY

Fuzzy, you tink Hawaii going come one state?

FUZZY

One state? Wat da hell I know?

IKKY

Why, you live in Hawaii, you gotta care. Important question. But dey say get too many Commies here. I no believe dat. I dunno one Commie. You know some Commies?

FUZZY

Yeah, I know some Commies.

IKKY

Yeah? Fo' real? Who? I know dem? Some guys at work?

FUZZY

Da Commies I know dead already.

IKKY

Yeah?

FUZZY

I wen' kill dem in Korea. You happy now?

IKKY

I asking you serious questions and you making fun.

FUZZY

Aeh, you tink fighting in Korea was fun? I tought I was one dead man. I saw wounded guys freeze to death because we neva can get dem out fast enough. Was hell, man. Ugly. Make me sick everytime I tink about it. So where da shit you was?

IKKY

You know. You jus' like make me say--

FUZZY

You was 4 fucking F, right?

IKKY

Aeh, you heard one haole going join us?

FUZZY

Wat? Wat he talking about?

IKKY

Tell 'um, Alex, c'mon, tell 'um. See wat Fuzzy tink.

MAISIE

Hi, Fuzzy.

MAISIE HANDS FUZZY A BEER.

FUZZY

Aeh, Maisie. T'anks, eh.

MAISIE

Wat you brought?

FUZZY

How you know I wen' bring someting?

MAISIE

Wat dat bag doing?

FUZZY

Valerie wen' make some seaweed kine, you know, ogo dish. I dunno if ono. She making you folks da guinea pigs.

MAISIE

You guys can eat tonight.

FUZZY

No, no! . . . Save 'um fo' you folks. Valerie made 'um fo' you. She told me, "Fuzzy, no eat dis. 'S fo' Maisie and Alex." 'S wat she said.

IKKY

You act like da damn ting is poison.

FUZZY

Aeh, da ting is ono. Taste real good. Maisie, no let Ikky eat dis.

IKKY

No eat my doughnuts den.

FUZZY

Good, I no like doughnuts anyway.

IKKY

Fuzzy, one haole going join us.

FUZZY

Yeah, yeah, I heard.

IKKY

Well, wat you tink. No good, eh. Tell Alex.

FUZZY

I no care. So long as da haole know wat he doing, I no care.

IKKY

And da bugga from da mainland, mo' worse. How da hell he know wat we feeling. Us guys get our own ways. Local style. We no need one haole wit' us.

FUZZY

If okay wit' Alex, okay wit' me.

IKKY

Fuck, man, 's jus' like you. You no can tink fo' yourself.

FUZZY

Aeh, I can tink fo' myself. Right now I tinking I going wipe your ass wit' your face.

IKKY

Oh yeah, oh yeah . . .

FUZZY

Yeah, crab face.

ALEX

You guys had enough fun? Now shut up and drink your beer.

IKKY

How 'bout Fuzzy going up against da bag?

ALEX

He can do betta dan you.

FUZZY

Wat happen?

ALEX

He wen' lose to da bag.

FUZZY

How you wen' do dat, Ikky? Tell me all da details.

IKKY

Yeah? Lemme see wat you can do.

ALEX THROWS THE GLOVES TO FUZZY.

ALEX

Ikky, behind da bag.

IKKY POSITIONS HIMSELF, READY TO TAKE FUZZY'S BLOWS.

IKKY

You going up against Wildcat Kim, look out.

FUZZY STARTS OUT SLOWLY, JABBING, JABBING, ONE-TWO PUNCHES.

IKKY

Punch, punch, c'mon, you giving me only baby punches. I like see some action.

FUZZY INTENSIFIES HIS BLOWS, FURIOUSLY ATTACKING THE BAG AND MAKING IKKY FALL BACK ON HIS BUTT.

ALEX

Ikky, maybe you betta not go wit' us tonight.

IKKY

Lucky punch, lucky punch.

MAISIE BRINGS OUT A JAR OF KIM CHEE WITH DISHES AND CHOPSTICKS.

MAISIE

Go eat.

IKKY

You made 'um, eh, Maisie. Ono, your kim chee. You get leftova rice?

FUZZY

Wassamadda, you neva eat dinna? Make shame, eh.

IKKY

I like kim chee and rice, wassamadda?

MAISIE

I get rice, Ikky. You like rice too, Fuzzy?

FUZZY

Okay.

MAISIE RETURNS TO THE KITCHEN.

IKKY AND FUZZY EYE EACH OTHER BUT REMAIN SILENT, MUNCHING ON THEIR KIM CHEE.

ALEX

How da kim chee?

IKKY

Maisie's kim chee da bes'. You lucky you married to her.

FUZZY

Aeh, Maisie, I was in Korea long time and your kim chee betta dan deirs!

MAISIE

(offstage)

Nah, mine not dat good.

IKKY

Maisie, if I not married to Ethel, I get married to you.

MAISIE

(offstage)

Too bad we married to da wrong person.

FUZZY

So, Alex, who da haole?

ALEX

He coming. You can ask him yourself.

IKKY

Tell me dis, Alex. If I no like his looks, wat I can do?

ALEX

Aeh, I not asking you to marry him.

MAISIE IS BACK WITH TWO BOWLS OF RICE FOR FUZZY AND IKI.

FUZZY

T'anks, Maisie.

IKKY

Yeah, tanks, damn kim chee is ono.

MAISIE

Good, Ikky?

IKKY

Yeah, man, real fucking good.

FUZZY

Aeh, Alex, how 'bout next week we go up Kalihi Valley hunt wild boar?

ALEX

Good. Anytime.

FUZZY

I in da mood fo'--

IKKY

I can go too?

FUZZY

Ikky, you gotta know how shoot one rifle. You bugga, you neva wen' in da Army, you only--

IKKY

I can learn.

FUZZY

Nah, you too clumsy.

IKKY

Not hard shoot one rifle.

FUZZY

'S wat you tink. Not da kine I use.

IKKY

Alex, I can go, eh?

ALEX

Too dangerous.

IKKY

I no going get hurt.

ALEX

I tinking about me and Fuzzy. You so damn clumsy, you going shoot us in da ass.

IKKY

Not you, Alex. Maybe Fuzzy.

FUZZY

Okay, tell me dis. Wat you going do wen one wild boar charge you?

IKKY

Shoot 'um.

FUZZY

Nah, nah, nah, nah. You go down on your hands and knees and butt da pig in da head wit' your head.

IKKY

Bull lie.

FUZZY

If you coming wit' us, 's wat you gotta do. .

IKKY

Your head not sore?

FUZZY

Of course, sore. But you knock da pig cold and grab da hunting knife and slit da buggah's t'roat.

IKKY

Bloody, eh?

ALEX

You can do dat?

IKKY

If you guys can do 'um, I can too.

FUZZY

You poke da knife in da boar's t'roat and twist 'um. Da damn pig squealing like crazy and da blood all flowing out.

IKKY

You bugga, you making me sick, I going vomit on you.

ALEX

Aeh, not in dis house.

FUZZY

Ikky, you can come. But if da wild boar kill you, no blame me.

IKKY

Dey can kill?

FUZZY

You damn right. Da boar is not Porky Pig. Damn tusks can rip you apart. I going make you sign one statement saying dat if da boar kill you, not my fault.

IKKY

Fo'get it. I know you no like I go, so I not going.

FUZZY

But I like you come wit' us. I like see how you going act wen da boar charge you. Maybe I going give you one bow and arrow instead of one rifle. Mo' exciting dat way. Mo' primitive. You like dat?

IKKY

Fo'get it. Alex going take me go hunt octopus.

ALEX

Aeh, aeh, who said I going take you?

IKKY

You take odda guys. Wat about me? You promise.

ALEX

I neva promise nuttin'. You dunno nuttin' about finding octopus. How you going find 'um?

IKKY

Aeh, I know you use da square box wit' da glass so you can see sand bottom.

ALEX

Yeah, den wat?

IKKY

Den you find da octopus.

ALEX

But how you find da damn ting. Wat you look fo'?

IKKY

Aeh, I find 'um by following you.

ALEX

No can take you no place.

IKKY

Aeh, you taking me tonight.

ALEX

We not going afta octopus tonight.

IKKY

So tell me how you hunt octopus. Den I shut up.

ALEX

You look fo' one trail of small cracked crab shells. Pretty soon you see one mound of sand. Guess wat underneath?

IKKY

One crab?

ALEX

No. You get your spear and poke da sand hard. And ho da ink come out and--

A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

ALEX OPENS THE DOOR AND JESSE ENTERS

JESSE

Hi.

IKKY

Wat you doing here?

JESSE

Wat? Why? Alex said come.

IKKY

Fo' wat?

ALEX

Shut up, Ikky. You like beer?

JESSE

Yeah.

ALEX

Maisie, bring Jesse one beer.

JESSE

Everybody here already, eh.

IKKY

Everybody but da haole.

JESSE

Wat haole?

FUZZY

Mainland haole.

JESSE

Oh.

IKKY

'S all you going say?

JESSE

Wat you like?

IKKY

You no like know some mo'?

JESSE

Yeah. You tell me.

IKKY

I no can tell you.

JESSE

Why?

IKKY

Alex tell you. Tell 'um, Alex.

ALEX

Shut up, Ikky.

(To Jesse)

How you bruddah?

JESSE

Not bad. But I hadda help him little bit. Das why I was little late. Sorry.

ALEX

You not late, fo'get it.

MAISIE ENTERS AND HANDS JESSE A BOWL OF RICE AND A BOTTLE OF BEER.

MAISIE

Jesse, eat some kim chee.

JESSE

Yeah, t'anks, Maisie.

MAISIE

How's Frankie?

JESSE

Okay. I mean, you know, he, ah . . .

MAISIE

I feel so sorry for him. And your muddah, she okay.

JESSE

Yeah. She busy taking care of Frankie, you know, so . . .

MAISIE

He was so strong and fast on his feet. Too bad.

ALEX

Maisie, go back in da kitchen and do someting. Us guys gotta talk.

MAISIE

Why? No can listen?

ALEX

Not tonight.

SHE EXITS INTO THE KITCHEN.

ALEX

Before da haole come--

IKKY

Finally.

FUZZY

Shut up, Ikky.

ALEX

We gotta take dis haole wit' us, no questions. Period. Not my idea, but dat's da way gotta be. He supposed to be someting special. He not just one muscle guy. He kinda one big wheel in dis kine job.

IKKY

WE can trust him?

ALEX

You neva hear wat I said? Da guy get credentials. You understand da word credentials?

FUZZY

Maisie can hear?

ALEX

Maisie . . . Maisie!

MAISIE ENTERS.

MAISIE

Wat?

ALEX

Go in da bedroom and shut da door.

MAISIE

No mo' air in dere.

ALEX

Open da window.

MAISIE

No can breathe.

ALEX

Where da hell da fan? Use 'um.

MAISIE

Da fan in da kitchen. I can use 'um in dere. I no can hear wat you guys talking.

SHE GOES BACK INTO THE KITCHEN. THEN AFTER A MOMENT:

MAISIE

See, I no can wat you guys talking.

JESSE

Let her hear. She can keep her mout' shut.

FUZZY

Dis haole going change our plans fo' tonight?

ALEX

Maybe. He going tell you himself wen he get here

IKKY

Fucking big deal, eh. He betta be good.

FUZZY

Good at wat? Tell me dat.

IKKY

Wat, big shot haole telling us wat fo' do. Wat he know dat we don't know. We no need him. We go already, we go befo' he come.

ALEX

Aeh, I no like da idea too, so shut up. You been yapping eva since you wen' come. Wassamadda, you scared? You like back out? Well, fo'get dat. You in, you gave your word, you wen' sign up fo' dis. You do wateva we tell you to do, you do wat da haole tell you to do. Get dat?

(easing up)

See, da reason why we gotta play rough is dat dis company wen' bring in one union buster.

IKKY

Union buster?

FUZZY

Muscle guy?

ALEX

No. Dis union buster come in, look ova da company. He tell da owna fix up da lavatories, make 'um clean. Den paint da eating areas, put in mo' nice tables and chairs, soda machines, jukebox, tings li'dat. All dis

working on da employess. Dis union buster know his job, making nice to da workers.

JESSE

But all dat is just crappy stuff. Wat about pay raises and benefits, 's mo' important.

ALEX

I know.

FUZZY

Alex, how you know wat happening inside dat company?

ALEX

Six months ago, our union wen' sneak in one spy.

JESSE

One spy?

ALEX

Yeah. He wen' apply to work dere, and da company dunno nuttin' so dey wen' hire him. We know everyting going on in dere now. I hear da bugga snooping arund real good. Even inside da offices wen nobody looking.

FUZZY

Sounds good.

JESSE

Now up to us to make sure we do our job right.

IKKY

Yeah, da grunts. Why us?

ALEX

Cause we no mo' money. And money means power. If we get money, all da money we wanted, hell, we no need do dis kine stuff. But we do good on dis job, we can move up in da union. All of us. So wat we doing tonight is fo' da union, but also fo' us guys. Because I not going let da union use us and den dump us. Take my word on dat.

IKKY

Sound good to me.

JESSE

We trust you, Alex.

FUZZY

You right about da money. Man, money is da root of all happiness.

IKKY

Jesse, if you going be one union big shot, you betta get married. About time, eh.

JESSE

Why, you like I marry your sista? She too momona fo' me.

IKKY

Aeh, she not fat like befo'. No kidding. She wen' lose about twenty pounds.

JESSE

How come?

IKKY

I said, "Aeh, if you like marry Jesse, you gotta take off da fat."

JESSE

You wen' use my name?

IKKY

(taking out his wallet)

Try look dis picture. Look her now.

JESSE

Wow, no can believe . . . she still ugly.

IKKY

Aeh, Fuzzy, you know somebody fo' my sista?

FUZZY

Yeah, my dog.

IKKY

You bugga. 'S da trouble wit' you--

JESSE

Aeh, Ikky, I only kidding. Your sista not bad.

IKKY

Yeah? You like I set you up?

JESSE

Nah, 's okay.

IKKY

I can do 'um. I know she like you. She can make one good wife, you know. She one tarrific cook. My muddah wen' train her real good.

ALEX

Aeh, Jesse, sounds like a winna. And fo' one bonus, you get Ikky as your bruddah-in-law.

JESSE

Ah, dat's it. Deal is off.

IKKY

Da deal is off? Shit you! Aeh, Alex, da punching bag, eh?

IKKY THROWS THE GLOVES AT JESSE, WHO PUTS THEM ON.

JESSE

Wat dis?

IKKY

We like see how tough you. Let's go, man. Dis not one punching bag, dis our enemy, dis da guy who like hold us down, dis da bugga who like kick your ass and cheat you out of everyting you like.

IKKY STATIONS HIMSELF BEHIND THE BAG.

JESSE ATTACKS THE BAG IMPRESSIVELY, BETTER THAN FUZZY OR IKKY.

FUZZY

Get 'um, Jesse. Pound 'um, pound 'um.

ALEX

(overlapping)

Make 'um sweat, no stop, attack, attack, no give chance!

IKKY IS VISIBLY TIRING.

IKKY

Ding, ding, ding. Round ova. Pau. 'S enough.

IKKY GOES TO DRINK SOME BEER.

ALEX

Da round not ova, get back dere, you lousy . . .

FUZZY

Aeh, you slacka, c'mon!

IKKY

Aeh, fight ova! TKO. Jesse lose.

JESSE

Wat da hell you saying!

THE DOORBELL RINGS. EVERYBODY LOOKS AT EACH OTHER. ALEX OPENS THE DOOR.

STANDING AT THE DOOR IS LUKE, A WELL-BUILT WHITE GUY. HE CARRIES A SATCHEL.

LUKE

Alex?

ALEX

Yeah.

LUKE

Luke.

ALEX

Da guys waiting.

LUKE

This is it? Who the hell picked you bunch of sewer rats for this job?

ALEX

Da same ones who picked you. Four of us and you. Dey said dat was enough.

LUKE

You don't look like you could handle Campfire Girls at a pajama party.

IKKY

We ain't sissies.

ALEX

Shut up.

IKKY

Well, he like know if we tough . . .

JESSE

Keep quiet, Ikky, and just listen.

LUKE

So you're a tough guy, huh? Show me, c'mon.

IKKY

Wat you like I do?

LUKE

Show me what you got. Now. I'm waiting. See if you can take me. I wanna see how tough you are.

(PAUSE)

Talk is cheap. I want action. Make me shake in my pants. C'mon.

IKKY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. HE LOOKS AT ALEX.

ALEX

No worry about Ikky. He can do his job.

LUKE

Hey, I don't want this stinking job. You don't want me here, and I don't want to work with guys I don't know. But this was decided by the big boys, and I take my orders from them. I hear tonight's the best time to take on the company owner. So we go in, tell 'em our demands--the union or else. If they need persuasion, we give it to them. Fast and hard.

ALEX

We ready to go.

MAISIE APPEARS AT KITCHEN DOOR.

LUKE

Who's that?

ALEX

My wife.

LUKE

Get her outta here.

ALEX GRABS MAISIE BY THE ARM AND TAKES HER TO BEDROOM DOOR AND SHOVES HER IN.

ALEX

Stay in dere.

LUKE

She knows about tonight?

ALEX

No.

LUKE

(sits)

It's important this company caves in. It's the first one we're targeting. If the company bends to our demands, the others will follow. That's why they called me in from Frisco. This company owner is a jackass s˙ o˙ b˙ We think he wants a fight. He's a World War Two vet and he's damn proud. But hell the war's been over a long time. He won't go down quietly. If we have to, we bloody him. I'll handle that part. I don't want you guys to get carried away and kill somebody. Nobody dies, get it? I hear there's only gonna be the owner and his second in command there. We bust in, tell them we're gonna unionize the workers and there's no trouble. If not, their lives are gonna be hell. I do the talking. If I see they ain't listening, I strike the first blow, then you guys jump in. Any questions so far?

IKKY

Yeah, you one Commie?

LUKE

Commie? Why?

JESSE

We jus' like know.

LUKE

You fought in da Korean War?

JESSE

No.

FUZZY

I did.

LUKE

Well, I did too. It was a damn stupid war and I killed a lot of Commie gooks and I killed a lot of bad Japs at Tarawa. That answer your question?

IKKY

You still neva say if you one Commie.

LUKE

Wat about you, you a Commie?

IKKY

I ask you first.

LUKE

I don't give a fuck who asked who first. You answer me now.

IKKY

You looking at one American, 100 per cent.

LUKE

Okay, we got that outta the way. Anybody got any important questions?

FUZZY

Afta we do da job, den wat?

LUKE

First, we go in separate cars. And I ride with somebody.

JESSE

You can go wit' me.

LUKE

After the job, we all come back here. Go over what happened. Make sure we get our stories straight just in case. Once this is over, don't talk to each other over the phone. Play it safe. You never know who might be listening.

IKKY

You hear dat, Alex?

ALEX

Wat about you? Where you going?

LUKE

I leave for Frisco, never mind when. What's that smell?

ALEX

Kim chee. You want some?

LUKE

Take it away. I don't wanna see or smell gook food.

ALEX TAKES KIM CHEE TO THE KITCHEN.

LUKE OPENS HIS SATCHEL, TAKES OUT RUBBER HOSES ABD PLACES THEM ON THE TABLE.

LUKE

I hate to see you guys hurt your lady finger hands. Besides, it don't look good if cops should inspect your bruised knuckles . . . Rubber hoses. That's all you need. Hit the bodies, not the heads. Hit 'em till they fall, kick 'em. Again, not in the head. Make 'em feel what it's like to go against us.

ALEX RETURNS.

LUKE

Heard what I said?

ALEX

Yeah, no problem. Want a beer?

LUKE

No thanks. I don't drink on the job.

ALEX

We still get time, right?

LUKE

Yeah. How 'bout your neighbors, they nosy?

ALEX

Dey don't hear, see or say nuttin'.

LUKE

Okay, what about you guys?

ALEX

Wat about us?

LUKE

Can I trust you--all of you?

JESSE

We all friends here.

LUKE

I like to work with men I know. I wanted to bring my own guys, but I was told here in Hawaii we would stand out.

FUZZY

You damn right. Here bunch of haoles standing togedda blind you in da eyes.

LUKE

Right. So they said I gotta use local guys, you guys. I hear what you're saying but I still don't know if I can trust you.

IKKY

How we know if we can trust you?

LUKE

You don't.

THEY STARE ACROSS THE TABLE.

NOBODY SAYS A WORD FOR A TIME.

FUZZY

You married?

LUKE

Why?

FUZZY

Ikky get one sista.

IKKY

No get funny.

MAISIE QUICKLY COMES OUT OF THE ROOM.

MAISIE

I gotta go bat'room.

SHE EXITS.

LUKE

You guys got something against a guy from the States?

FUZZY

We get our own ways.

LUKE

You got some kind of inferiority complex?

IKKY

Wat you mean by dat?

LUKE SMILES AND SAYS NOTHING.

I said, wat you--

LUKE

So I'm a what, you say, a haole? Well, there's a lot more haoles where I come from, and we got the power, so you'd better get used to it.

ALEX

We just looking for fair treatment.

LUKE

Life isn't fair.

ALEX

Power. 'S da name of da game.

LUKE

You got it.

ALEX

And da union is power.

LUKE

Right.

ALEX

Someday . . . someday.

LUKE

Tonight if things don't go right, we get more than pies in our faces.

FUZZY

We know wat we doing. In and out and t'ank you.

TOILET FLUSHES. MAISIE ENTERS AND SITS NEARBY. SHE LOOKS AT ALEX.

MAISIE

Wat?

ALEX ESCORTS HER TO THE BEDROOM, CLOSING THE DOOR.

LUKE

Can't you control her?

IKKY

You tink Hawaii should be one state?

LUKE

I don't care.

IKKY

Why? 'S one important question fo' America.

LUKE

I don't give a shit.

IKKY

I tink Hawaii should be one state.

LUKE

Good for you.

IKKY

You tink Alaska should be one state?

LUKE

Alaska is not my problem.

IKKY

Yeah, but you tink Alaska--

ALEX

Ikky, you driving me nuts.

IKKY

Aeh, Fuzzy and me like know where da bugga stand on statehood.

FUZZY

I no care about his politics.

IKKY

You know we just had one Communist hearing in Hawaii. One senator from da mainland wen' come to investigate the Reds.

LUKE

So what?

IKKY

Us guys in Hawaii no like Commies.

LUKE

Good for you, you fucking asshole.

FUZZY

Yeah, Ikky. shut your mouth.

JESSE

No listen to Ikky.

ALEX

Dis get nuttin' to do wit' statehood. Dis is union business tonight. And only union business.

LUKE

Your name's Ikky, right?

IKKY

Yeah.

LUKE

Real nosy about me, aren't you? . . . How's your health?

IKKY

Okay.

LUKE

Want to stay that way?

IKKY

I guess so.

LUKE

You guess so? Listen to me, you fucking asshole jerk. I don't give a damn for your fucking stupid questions, and once this job is over, I don't ever wanna see your fucking ugly face again. Cause if I do, you're a fucking dead man. That's what I think of you. Get me?

ALEX

No let Ikky get to you. Irritate da hell outta everybody. He harmless.

LUKE

I'm going to the toilet. Talk all you want about me.

LUKE EXITS.

IKKY

Da fucka like swear, eh. Who da fuck he tink him? And why he call me ugly? Da bugga mo' ugly dan me. He get one face like--

ALEX

Ikky, you no can just shut up once.

IKKY

We still going do da job wit' him?

JESSE

Of course. We gotta.

FUZZY

You like da bosses find out you wen' back out?

IKKY

I just like be sure we going tonight.

ALEX

You fucking . . . wat da hell we been saying all night.

IKKY

I just like know.

JESSE

I get one bad feeling.

ALEX

Get dat feeling outta your head.

FUZZY

I just like get dis ova wit'.

IKKY

Tonight. Gotta be tonight, right?

MAISIE ENTERS.

MAISIE

No go, Alex.

ALEX

Not now, Maisie.

FUZZY

We only going out drink some beer.

MAISIE

You can drink here.

JESSE

No, we going Forbidden City see some strippers.

MAISIE

Bull lie, Jesse. You guys going do someting bad.

ALEX

No cause trouble, baby. Okay? You know wat we wen' talk about. Time fo' us to go. Da odda wives not saying anyting.

MAISIE

'S because dey dunno wat going on.

IKKY

Maisie, I take care Alex.

ALEX

Be good. No worry yourself. Everyting going be okay. I promise. I get t'ree good guys wit' me. You know dem. Right? I know wat I doing.

LUKE RETURNS.

LUKE

She out here again?

MAISIE

Dis my house.

LUKE

Little lady, we're going now. Thanks for your hospitality. Let's go, boys, we got an appointment with destiny.

LUKE EXITS OUT THE FRONT DOOR, FOLLOWED BY JESSE AND IKKY.

ALEX

Go sleep early.

ALEX EXITS.

FUZZY WAITS TILL THEY LEAVE BEFORE APPROACHING MAISIE.

FUZZY

Aeh, ah, I can use your phone? I fo'get tell Valerie someting. Can use da bedroom phone?

MAISIE

Yeah.

FUZZY GOES INTO THE BEDROOM.

MAISIE WALKS PAST THE BEDROOM AND STOPS, LISTENS FOR A MOMENT, THEN CLEANS UP THE TABLE AS FUZZY RE-EMERGES.

FUZZY

T'anks, Maisie.

FUZZY EXITS.

MAISIE GOES TO THE FRONT DOOR AND LOOKS OUT. A SENSE OF FOREBODING PERMEATES THE AIR.

LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

Act 2

ACT II

LIGHT UP ON MAN AND ALEX.

MAN

Okay, we get everyting set up now. Time fo' action.

ALEX

Dis someting we gotta do, right? No odda way.

MAN

Listen to me. I love my job. Rough, though. Union work one mean business. Small union, like ours, is two-bit crap. But one giant union, like da ILWU. da International Longshoremen's Union, dey can make you shake in your pants. 'S how our union going be. Rememba in 1949 when da ILWU wen' on strike? Damn islands wen' shut down. Me, first ting I did, I wen' stash away rice and toilet paper. Da ILWU show no mercy, man. Dey wen' fight fo' da members. Strong, gutsy, tough. 'S how our union gotta be. Some people said da ILWU bosses Communists. Aeh, I know some a dem guys, and dey ain't no Commies. Dey believe in fair play, fair wages, justice, racial equality, like me and my union. 'S all we asking fo'. But sometimes to get all dat, we gotta show some muscle. Nuttin' too pilau, you know. But we gotta show da bigshot company owners who da real boss is around here . . . Of course no odda way. Wat? You getting chicken?

ALEX

No, I ready. Wat if someting go wrong?

MAN

Like wat?

ALEX

Maybe da company boss like fight.

MAN

Dat asshole? You know wat you gotta do den. Teach 'um a lesson. I sick and tired of da way dat bugga acting. He talking big about how no union going take ova his company. Wat da fuck he tinking. We no like take ova da company. We only like help da workers. Wat, cannot do dat? Free country. Wat he tink us? We going kick his ass. Right, Alex? Right?

ALEX

Yeah. Time to make our move.

MAN

Damn right.

LIGHT DOWN ON MAN AND ALEX, LIGHT UP ON IKKY, SEATED ON A CHAIR.

IKKY

Curtis Bell? Who dat? . . . I dunno da guy . . . He dead? So wat? I no like trouble . . . I neva do nuttin'. No ask me. Ask Alex, ask his wife. Me I dunno nuttin' . . . Wat you like I tell you?

LIGHT DOWN ON IKKY AND LIGHT UP ON ALEX AND MAN.

ALEX

But wat if somebody gets killed?

MAN

Who said to kill? I neva said dat.

ALEX

I mean, you know, wat if one accident and by mistake somebody ma'ke?

MAN

No make da kine mistake. You go in dere and scare da hell outta da company boss. 'S all you gotta do. Aeh, you do 'um right and da bugga going shit in his pants. Okay, beat 'um up if you gotta, but no kill da buggas. Just make sure a dat. If somebody make, dat means you did wrong. We not going back you up. We going deny everyting. You guys going be hanging upside down by your feet. So no screw up. Our spy been doing his job. He wen' find out lotta stuff fo' us. He snooping around real good. Inside offices, reading confidential memos. We know everyting going on at da company. 'S why we making our move now. We slam da door shut on da company bosses, t'anks to our spy. Slam da fucking door shut!

MAN SLAPS HIS HAND HARD ON THE CLIPBOARD HE'S CARRYING. .

DOWN ON ALEX AND MAN, UP ON FUZZY.

FUZZY

So you found da body where? . . . Kipapa Gulch? How da hell, eh? . . . Me? Aeh, I neva get nuttin' to do wit' dat. Why you keep coming back to dat date again? . . . I dunno, yeah, maybe I was playing poker wit' Alex and da guys . . . Yeah, yeah, Alex, Ikky, me and Jesse.

DOWN ON FUZZY AND UP ON ALEX AND MAN.

MAN

Now our spy wen' find out exactly wen da company boss and his second in command going be alone at da company to talk about strategy against us. We got 'um where we want 'um now. We know da exact time dey going meet. Going be real easy, only da two guys dere and you guys. Plus da haole we bringing in from da mainland. His name is Luke. L-U-K-E. Professional. I told you about him befo'. He going make sure you guys no do someting stupid and kill one guy.

ALEX

No worry about us. I get da guys ready. No problem. You can depend on us.

DOWN ON ALEX AND MAN, UP ON JESSE.

JESSE

I no can remember . . . Poker? Dat night? No, I was home wit' my muddah and bruddah . . . No bodda her. No give her bad time . She get enough trouble wit' my bruddah . . . Wat you like know?

LIGHT DOWN ON JESSE.

LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM AS MAISIE ENTERS. OBVIOUSLY RESTLESS, SHE GOES TO THE WINDOW AND LOOKS OUT.

ELVIS' SONG, "HEARTBREAK HOTEL," IS PLAYING.

MAISIE

Where you, Alex? Come home, hurry up. No make me mad. I sick and tired of worrying every time. Wat you doing now, Alex? Wat happening? Shit you!

THE PHONE RINGS. MAISIE TURNS OFF THE RADIO AND ANSWERS THE PHONE.

MAISIE

Hello . . . oh, hi, Valerie . . . wat? . . . oh no, Alex neva come back yet. Fuzzy late too, eh? I dunno where dey went . . . Yeah, dey all went out . . . no, dey neva play poker. 'S wat Fuzzy told you? . . . I guess maybe dey changed deir mind. Befo' dey went out, Fuzzy said he going call you . . . He neva call? . . . Yeah? I dunno . . . If Fuzzy come back, I tell him to call you . . . Okay.

MAISIE HANGS UP THE PHONE, GOES TO A SMALL CLOCK AND PICKS IT UP TO CHECK THE TIME.

SUDDENLY THERE'S NOISE OUTSIDE THE FRONT DOOR.

THE DOORKNOB TURNS AND RATTLES.

THERE'S URGENT POUNDING ON THE DOOR NOW.

IKKY

Maisie. Maisie. Open, open.

WHEN MAISIE OPENS, IKKY HALF-DRAGS IN ALEX, WHO IS HURT.

MAISIE

Wat happen?

IKKY GETS ALEX TO THE COUCH.

IKKY

I dunno, I dunno, I mean . . . Close da door quick, quick.

MAISIE DOES SO.

MAISIE

Alex, Alex, wat--

ALEX

Me okay. No bodda me.

MAISIE

Wat you mean, look at you.

ALEX

Wassamadda . . .

MAISIE

Shut up you. Ikky, tell me wat--

IKKY

Dey wen' fucking jump us. We neva had chance. How come, dey, I dunno--

MAISIE

Who wen' jump you?

ALEX

Shut up, Ikky.

IKKY

Alex, wat wen' . . . not supposed to be li'dat. Was so crazy, who, who, how come, why, I dunno who--

MAISIE GRABS IKKY BY THE SHIRT, SHAKES HIM AND SLAPS HIM ACROSS THE FACE.

MAISIE

Damn you, Ikky, tell me wat, you fucking sonavabitch, open your fucking mout' . . . Say someting, you fucking muddah fucka!

IKKY STANDS OPEN-MOUTHED, SHOCKED BY MAISIE'S ACT OF VIOLENCE.

IKKY

Alex, make her stop. She scaring me da way she swear.

ALEX

No bodda Ikky. No bodda, no bodda. Everyting going be okay.

MAISIE

Alex, where you hurting?

ALEX

Mo' easy if I tell you where I not hurting.

MAISIE

Where?

ALEX

No place.

MAISIE

Wat? No place hurt?

ALEX

No place not hurting.

MAISIE

I betta call one ambulance.

ALEX

No, no ambulance.

MAISIE

But I gotta get you--

ALEX

No, no, no. Only hurt little bit. No problem.

MAISIE

No lie.

IKKY

Alex, how come dey was waiting fo' us? Was one fucking trap. Gotta be da haole. He wen' doublecross us. I neva like him from da start. I told you he was no good. I like get my hands on his neck.

MAISIE

I going ask you one mo' fucking time--wat da hell wen' happen? You fucking shit, if you no tell me I going--

IKKY

Alex, I gotta tell her. I no like hear her dirty mout'.

MAISIE

Yeah, you fucking bastard. Talk!

IKKY

Our job was to go to dis company and tell da owner he gotta let da union in or else. If he no listen, we was going beat 'um up. But befo' we can do dat, some fucking guys wen' jump us. I dunno where da fuck dey wen' come from. Was kinna dark in da place. I tink dey wen' make 'um dark on purpose. But--

MAISIE

Alex, 's true?

ALEX

Da union come first and last. You tink management care fo' us?

MAISIE

Shaddup! You sound like one stuck record. Why you gotta do da dirty work?

ALEX STRUGGLES TO SIT UP.

IKKY

You need help, Alex, you need help?

MAISIE

How come you neva get hurt?

IKKY

Me? Dey hit me fucking hard all ova. My body sore. But not like Alex. One guy was kicking him. No need kick him li'dat. Was not right. Alex, I wen' swing at da guy afta dat, I tink I got 'um.

ALEX

Ikky wen' get me out.

IKKY

Yeah, was so damn crazy in dere. Guys yelling and swinging and and, and, I dunno wat . . .

MAISIE

Wat about Fuzzy and Jesse?

IKKY

I dunno. I jus' like get Alex out. I neva see . . . I dunno . . . I hope dey wen' escape too.

MAISIE

Why you make me worry fo'? Why you no can mind your own business and let somebody else do da kine stuff?

MAISIE EXITS INTO THE KITCHEN.

IKKY

Wat you tink, Alex, dey was waiting fo' us o' wat?

ALEX DOESN'T ANSWER, STARING STRAIGHT AHEAD.

IKKY

You okay?

ALEX

Huh, wat?

IKKY

You like go see one doctor?

ALEX

Wat da hell happen to Jesse and Fuzzy?

IKKY

I dunno. Was dark in dere.

ALEX

Da company guys was waiting fo' us.

IKKY

How you know? Maybe was just bad luck.

ALEX

No, dey was waiting, dey was waiting. How come dey was waiting?

MAISIE RETURNS WITH A WET DISH TOWEL. SHE WIPES ALEX'S FACE.

IKKY

Wat we going do now?

ALEX

We gotta find out about Jesse and Fuzzy.

IKKY

How? No can go back dere.

MAISIE

Alex . . .

ALEX

Shut up, I feel betta.

(coughs)

MAISIE

Alex . . .

ALEX

Lemme stand up, I show you, lemme up.

IKKY

Take it easy, man, watch out.

ALEX DROPS BACK ON THE CHAIR.

MAISIE

I wonda if I should call Valerie. She wen' call, you know, she was worried about Fuzzy. Maybe Fuzzy went home already.

ALEX

Wat you told her?

MAISIE

Nuttin'. I neva know nuttin' to tell.

ALEX

'S da way supposed to be.

MAISIE

If I call Valerie and Fuzzy not home, she going worry even mo'.

IKKY

Call Valerie and if she answer, hang up.

ALEX

Dat no good.

IKKY

But maybe Fuzzy went home, and if da phone ring, he going answer because he figga we calling him.

MAISIE

If you hang up on Valerie, mo' worse. She going tink someting funny and worry some mo'.

THE THREE SIT, NOT KNOWING WHAT TO DO.

THE PHONE RINGS.

THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER, THEN MAISIE MOVES TO PICK UP THE PHONE.

IKKY

No answer.

MAISIE

Why?

ALEX

Pick up 'um.

IKKY

No, Alex, wat if da cops?

ALEX

Why da cops going call?

IKKY

Maybe dey went squeal on us.

ALEX

Who wen' squeal?

IKKY

I dunno who.

ALEX

Den shut up.

MAISIE

Maybe Valerie again.

ALEX

Go, hurry up, go.

MAISIE ANSWERS THE PHONE.

MAISIE

Hello . . . oh, you Ethel . . .

SHE LOOKS AT ALEX AND IKKY, BOTH OF WHOM SHAKE THEIR HEADS.

MAISIE

No, Alex not home too. I guess dey still out drinking. You know dose guys . . . How da kids? . . . Yeah? Good . . . No kidding . . . Okay, bye-bye.

IKKY

Wat she said?

MAISIE

Nuttin' special.

IKKY

Damn Ethel no can leave me alone. And her voice jus' like chalk on one blackboard. I tink I going deaf listening to her.

MAISIE

Ikky, 's your wife.

IKKY

You telling me. Always complaining about everyting unda da sun--and moon. Day and night, night and day. Kids crying and screaming. Wait till you guys get kids, den you know why-. . .

ALEX

Shut up.

IKKY

Yeah, yeah.

MAISIE

Ikky, you lucky you get Ethel. She was only saying nice tings about you.

IKKY

Aeh, no joke, I not laughing.

MAISIE

You guys all get pilau mouth. All da wives worry about you, and you guys no give a shit about us.

ALEX

How da company knew we was coming?

IKKY

Wat?

ALEX

Who wen' tip dem off?

IKKY

Was just bad luck, Alex. Wrong time to--

ALEX

No. Somebody wen' doublecross us . . . You neva hear somebody say, "We was waiting fo' you."

IKKY

I neva hear.

ALEX

'S wat I wen' hear. How come so many guys was dere tonight?

IKKY

Who? . . . Wait . . . da haole. Gotta be. Who else . . .? Da guy come from da mainland, he no care about us guys. Right? He no mo' stake in dis. He can go back to da mainland now and no give a damn about us.

ALEX

Not da haole. He get nuttin' to gain. No make sense.

MAISIE

Wait . . . I hate to say dis, but . . .

ALEX

Wat? . . . Say wat?

MAISIE

Wen Valerie wen' call tonight, she said Fuzzy neva call her, but wen you guys wen' out, Fuzzy said he like borrow da bedroom phone to call Valerie. So who he wen' call?

ALEX

Wat he was saying?

MAISIE

I dunno, but he was talking to somebody.

ALEX

Long time?

MAISIE

No, real quick.

IKKY

Enough time to tip off . . .

ALEX

Nah, nah.

IKKY

Alex, you said yourself. Da company, dey knew we was coming. Who told dem? I say da haole, but if you say not da haole, den who? Why Fuzzy told Maisie he going phone Valerie, but instead call somebody else?

ALEX

Not Fuzzy.

IKKY

And why Fuzzy like use da phone afta all of us leave da house? And why use da bedroom phone?

ALEX REMAINS SILENT.

IKKY

You know, Fuzzy diff'rent from us. He no care about nobody. 'S because he was in da Korean War. Dat wen' teach him to look out only fo' himself. Da war wen' do someting to his head. I always tought he was a little off. You know da way he like talk about twisting da knife in da pig, and you know he love all da blood and killing. I can see 'um in his eyes.

ALEX

You no undastand Fuzzy.

IKKY

Aeh, I said was da haole Luke, but you da one . . .

ALEX

Da haole get nuttin' to gain to doublecross us.

IKKY

Aeh, wat about money? Maybe he wen' contact da company and make one deal.

ALEX

He get credentials.

IKKY

How long we going wait?

ALEX

I like know who wen' squeal on us.

THERE IS KNOCKING AT THE DOOR.

MAISIE STANDS TO GO BUT ALEX STOPS HER.

JESSE

(outside the door)

Alex . . . Alex . . . Maisie . . .

ALEX NODS FOR MAISIE TO OPEN THE DOOR.

JESSE STUMBLES IN AND NEARLY FALLS.

IKKY AND MAISIE CATCH HIM AND BRING HIM TO A CHAIR.

JESSE

Wat happen?

IKKY

You tell us.

JESSE

Alex . . . Alex . . . wat went wrong?

ALEX

I dunno.

IKKY

Da haole went squeal on us.

JESSE

Da last ting I saw, da guys was pounding da haole.

IKKY

So? Dey pull deir punches, make 'um look good. 'S easy, fake da blows.

ALEX

You saw Fuzzy?

JESSE

Fuzzy? Fuzzy?

MAISIE WIPES JESSE'S FACE.

MAISIE

How you feel?

JESSE

I feel like shit.

MAISIE

Wat I can do fo' you? You like go hospital?

JESSE

No need, no need.

ALEX

Wat happen to Fuzzy?

JESSE

I tink he was near da haole. But I neva see good. I was taking blows, man.

IKKY

Jesse, da haole wen' set us up. Was one fucking trap. I like get my hands on him.

JESSE

Da haole?

IKKY

Who else going be? Fuzzy?

JESSE

Fuzzy?

ALEX

Maybe . . . if he no show up.

JESSE

Not Fuzzy.

IKKY

Could be.

JESSE

No.

ALEX

If not Fuzzy o' da haole? Who?

JESSE

No look at me.

ALEX

I not saying you.

IKKY

We not blaming you.

JESSE

I got beat up.

ALEX

Me too.

JESSE

Wat about you?

IKKY

Me?

JESSE

No look like get mark on you.

IKKY

Aeh, dey slam me good, man. Fucking assholes was--

JESSE

Where dey hit you?

IKKY

Dey hit body blows. I was protecting my head. You like see my body? All black and blue, man, I fucking sore all ova. Aeh, where da fuck you get da idea was me?

JESSE

I neva say was you.

IKKY

I no like da look in your eyes.

ALEX

Shut up, you guys. No go crazy.

IKKY

I still tink da haole, but maybe Fuzzy, 'cause he told Maisie he like use da phone to call Valerie but he neva call her. He wen' call somebody else. 'S right, eh, Maisie?

MAISIE

Yeah.

JESSE

Who he went call?

ALEX

We dunno. Not yet.

IKKY

Maybe he went call da company and squeal on us.

JESSE

He was acting funny.

ALEX

He was?

JESSE

Yeah.

IKKY

How?

JESSE

You heard 'um. He was coughing a lot.

ALEX

So wat?

JESSE

Was one nervous kine cough.

MAISIE

But he neva cough here in da house wen he was here.

JESSE

Only wen we reach da company.

IKKY

Yeah. Alex, you neva notice?

ALEX

I like talk to Fuzzy first.

JESSE

I neva tought going turn out like dis.

IKKY

Wat you mean?

JESSE

Just wat I said.

IKKY

How you tought was going turn out?

JESSE

We go in, tell 'um wat we like and dey say okay. How you tought was going turn out?

IKKY

I neva tink nuttin'. I just do wat Alex say. ‘I no need tink.

MAISIE EXITS INTO THE KITCHEN.

ALEX

FUCK!

MAISIE RUSHES OUT WITH GLASSES OF WATER.

MAISIE

Wat happen?

ALEX

FUCK!

IKKY

Take it easy, Alex.

ALEX

Shut up!

MAISIE

Drink some water please, please . . . good.

SHE MAKES ALEX TAKE A SIP, GIVES THE OTHER GLASS TO JESSE, WHO DRINKS.

THERE IS SLOW KNOCKING ON THE DOOR. NOT INSISTENT, NOT URGENT.

MAISIE STANDS AT THE DOOR.

MAISIE

Who dat?

FUZZY

(outside door)

Fuzzy.

MAISIE LOOKS BACK AT THE OTHERS.

IKKY AND JESSE MOVE AROUND TO PREPARE FOR FUZZY'S ENTRANCE.

THEN ALEX NODS TO MAISIE, WHO THEN OPENS THE DOOR.

STANDING THERE IS NOT FUZZY BUT LUKE, WHO STANDS IMMOBILE FOR SEVERAL BEATS, THEN FALLS FORWARD TO THE FLOOR. RIGHT BEHIND HIM IS FUZZY.

FUZZY

Help me.

IKKY HELPS FUZZY MOVE LUKE TO THE COUCH.

LUKE'S FACE IS A BLOODY PULP.

LUKE STARES STRAIGHT AHEAD WITHOUT BLINKING.

IKKY

He look dead . . . I tink he dead.

IKKY STEPS CAUTIOUSLY TO LUKE.

IKKY

You dead o' wat?

NO REPLY, SO IKKY CAREFULLY REACHES OUT TO LUKE.

LUKE

Don't touch me.

IKKY JUMPS BACK.

MAISIE

How you feeling?

LUKE

I feel dead.

MAISIE

I can clean you up little bit.

LUKE

No.

MAISIE

Water?

LUKE

No.

JESSE

Fuzzy, why you neva drop him off at one hospital?

FUZZY

He neva like go.

IKKY

Why bring him here?

FUZZY

Where else I going take him?

LUKE

Don't think you got away with this.

ALEX

Wat you mean?

LUKE

Somebody tipped off the company.

ALEX

I know.

LUKE

Somebody in this room.

FUZZY

Somebody here?

LUKE

One of you guys.

FUZZY

No can be.

LUKE

Or maybe her.

ALEX

No include my wife. She dunno nuttin'.

LUKE

You don't look hurt. Why?

IKKY

Me? I got beat up, man. I wen' protect my face but my body got it all ova.

ALEX

Me and Jesse got it da worst.

JESSE

(to Luke)

Except fo' you. You look like hell.

LUKE

Somebody's gonna pay.

ALEX

We dunno who wen' doublecross us.

LUKE

Maybe I should kill all of you.

IKKY

Maybe you da one went' doublecross us.

LUKE

What?

IKKY

Maybe you wen' get beat up so we no suspect you.

LUKE

You fucking idiot. You wanna die?

IKKY

How you going kill me? Wit' your hands? Lemme see wat you can do. You not so tough now.

ALEX

Lay off, Ikky.

IKKY

Da bugga no can do shit.

LUKE

You wanna taste this.

FUZZY

Look out, he get one--

LUKE DRAWS OUT A PISTOL.

ALEX

How he got da gun?

FUZZY

He make me take him to his car so he can get da--

ALEX

Dat was stupid.

FUZZY

Aeh, I neva know he had one gun in da car.

LUKE

So we're not playing games anymore. You

(to Ikky)

I'm saving you for last.

MAISIE

Only one guy wen' pull da doublecross. No need shoot everybody.

LUKE

Find me dat guy and the rest of you go free.

DEAD SILENCE. FACES EYE EACH OTHER. THEN . . . .

IKKY

Was Fuzzy.

FUZZY

Aeh, wat you talking--

IKKY

Look at him. No mo' scratch on him.

FUZZY

Ikky, you shit . . . Alex, Jesse . . .

ALEX

Da phone call, Fuzzy.

FUZZY

Wat phone call?

MAISIE

Da one you neva make to Valerie.

FUZZY

Wen?

ALEX

Tonight, of course. Wen da fuck you tink? No act dumb. .

MAISIE

You went in da bedroom call Valerie.

FUZZY

Yeah, 's wat I did.

MAISIE

Valerie wen' call later. She said you neva call.

FUZZY

I did. But . . . wait, da line was busy. She was talking to somebody. Had busy signal, but I neva like wait, so I wen' hang up and came out.

ALEX

Busy signal?

FUZZY

You saw me, Maisie, I neva stay in dere long time. Da line was busy.

MAISIE

I heard you talking to somebody.

FUZZY

No, no, I was talking to myself because da line was busy. Alex, you believe me. You know I not going do--

LUKE

Call your wife. Let me hear her answer. You, what's your name?

MAISIE

Maisie.

LUKE

Maisie, you call, aske her if she was on the phone.

MAISIE DIALS.

MAISIE

Hello . . . Valerie. Dis is Maisie . . . No, dey neva come back yet. But, Valerie, I like ask you someting. You was talking on da phone tonight, about 8 o'clock?

SHE PUTS THE PHONE TO LUKE'S EAR.

LUKE

Hang up.

MAISIE

T'anks, Valerie . . . No, nuttin'. I was wondering about my phone, was acting kinda funny . . . Yeah, bye-bye.

LUKE

She said she wasn't on the phone all night.

FUZZY

Not me.

LUKE

You lied.

ALEX

Why lie?

IKKY

Wat was da reason?

LUKE

Only one reason.

FUZZY

No, wait. I neva call Valerie. I called . . . Gloria.

ALEX

Who dat?

FUZZY

Dis girl I been seeing.

MAISIE

Valerie know about her?

FUZZY

No. I been seeing Gloria for few months now.

IKKY

How we know you not lying again?

FUZZY

Call her.

LUKE

Make the call.

FUZZY

55-862.

LUKE

Why'd you call her?

FUZZY

I told her I like see her tonight. I was going see her afta our job.

LUKE

You ask her what time you called her tonight. Then say you'll see her tomorrow.

MAISIE

(to Fuzzy)

Wat about Valerie? You no care fo' her?

LUKE

Just dial.

MAISIE DIALS, THEN GIVES THE PHONE TO FUZZY.

FUZZY

Hello, Gloria . . . Yeah, I know late . . . listen, wat time I wen' call you tonight? Just tell me wat time I wen' call? Okay? Wat time I wen' call?

HE GIVES THE PHONE TO LUKE, WHO LISTENS.

LUKE NODS AND FUZZY TAKES THE PHONE BACK.

FUZZY

Gloria, Gloria, I see you tomorrow. No mo' time tonight.

FUZZY HANGS UP.

LUKE VISIBLY IS TRYING TO COPE WITH HIS PAIN.

LUKE

So Fuzzy is doublecrossing his wife but that's all . . . You, Jesse . . .

JESSE

Wat?

LUKE

You.

JESSE

Wat you like?

LUKE

Prove yourself.

JESSE

Look at me. I got beat up as bad as you.

LUKE

Nobody got beat up as bad as me.

JESSE

I got no reason to . . . Alex, you know me. Tell 'um.

ALEX

I dunno.

JESSE

Me one of you guys.

LUKE

(coughing)

I'm not hearing you.

JESSE

Why I going get myself beat up?

LUKE

Smart move. Then nobody suspects you.

JESSE

Could still be Fuzzy. Could be Alex. He know mo' dan anybody. He set da day and time. He could've told da company guys everyting.

ALEX

You crazy. Wat I going get out of it?

JESSE

Maybe one high level job at da company. You told me yourself your job stinks.

ALEX

We all hate our jobs.

JESSE

But my wife not pregnant.

LUKE

You pregnant, Maisie?

MAISIE

Yes.

LUKE

Alex, you could use a better paying job. Money. You know what they say about money. Money talks. Were you listening, Alex?

ALEX

Shoot me if you like, I no give a fuck.

MAISIE

Alex.

ALEX

You shoot me, you kill da wrong guy.

MAISIE

Wasn't Alex, believe me. He's my husband, he's a good man.

ALEX

Neva mind. Shoot me, you asshole, wat da fuck I care. You no mo' fucking brains in your head. Kill me and see wat you get.

MAISIE

(crying)

Shut up, Alex, shut up.

MAISIE JUMPS IN FRONT OF ALEX.

MAISIE

No.

ALEX

Get away.

HE TRIES TO PUSH MAISIE ASIDE BUT IS TOO WEAK.

IKKY

Wait. I know why Jesse wen' squeal. Money, he need money bad. His bruddah one cripple, Da medical bills piling up. Just Jesse and his muddah taking care of his bruddah. Dey need da money.

JESSE

No get stupid.

LUKE

Your bruddah's an invalid, eh?

JESSE

So wat?

LUKE

You need money.

JESSE

We all need money.

IKKY

Alex, you know how bad Jesse need da money. Da company find out and give him wat he need. Right? Make sense, eh?

ALEX

Yeah.

IKKY

Not only dat, but he one mahu.

LUKE

One what?

JESSE

Wat da fuck you saying? Wassamadda wit' you?

LUKE

Shut up. What the hell's a mahu?

IKKY

He one homo. Da silent kine. Da kine you no tink but I know--

JESSE

You fucking. . .!

HE HITS IKKY, WHO STAGGERS BACK. THEN CHARGES JESSE; THEY FALL TO THE FLOOR. GRAPPLING WITH EACH OTHER.

LUKE FIRES THE GUN IN THE AIR. EVERYBODY FREEZES.

LUKE

Okay, kids, no more playground fighting. I ain't got the time to mess with you guys.

JESSE

I ain't no homo.

IKKY

Da bugga no date no girls, fucking fag.

LUKE

I don't care if he's a fag or not. I don't give a damn . . . Looks like they got a good case against you . . . But I still wanna talk to you.

IKKY

Me? You already get da guy you want.

LUKE

Shut up, shithead. I hope it's you. I wanna kill you bad. Even if you ain't the guy, I might shoot you anyway.

IKKY

You no can kill one innocent man.

LUKE

Yeah, I can. I've done it before, I can do it now.

IKKY

I get one wife and t'ree kids.

LUKE

They can give you a nice funeral.

IKKY

Dey need me.

LUKE

Like a hole in the head.

IKKY

I neva do nuttin' to you.

LUKE

You give me a pain, a big, fat pain in da . . .

LUKE IS OBVIOUSLY SUFFERING.

LUKE

Beg. Come on, come here, yeah, right in front of me. Good. Get down on your knees and beg for your life. Do it or die.

IKKY LOOKS AROUND FOR HELP. NONE IS FORTHCOMING. HE GOES DOWN ON HIS KNEES.

LUKE PUTS THE GUN TO IKKY'S HEAD.

LUKE

Beg, you pig.

IKKY

No kill me. My wife, my kids, dey . . . I gotta take care of dem. If I no stay, dey going suffa and . . .

LUKE

Say please. Please, please don't kill me.

IKKY

Please please, don't kill me.

IKKY SOBS.

ALEX

'S enough. Leave 'um alone.

FUZZY

Why? Maybe Ikky da one anyway.

JESSE

Yeah.

ALEX

All fucked up, all fucked up. I wen' plan everyting and I wen' trust everybody, and I wen' pick you guys. But somebody wen' fuck us up. .

FUZZY

You fucked up, Alex.

JESSE

Your fault, Alex.

MAISIE

(to Luke)

Let dem go. Dey neva mean fo' you to get hurt.

LUKE DOESN'T RESPOND. HIS HEAD IS DOWN, GUN ARM IS LOWERED. .

MAISIE

Say someting. Answer me.

SHE ADVANCES CAUTIOUSLY TO LUKE.

MAISIE

I said . . . let dem . . .

MAISIE TOUCHES LUKE, AND HE SLUMPS OVER DEAD.

THEY ALL STARE AT LUKE, BUT NOBODY MAKES A MOVE FOR A WHILE.

IKKY

He sleeping?

MAISIE

I tink he dead.

IKKY

Maybe he faking.

MAISIE CHECKS HIS PULSE.

MAISIE

Dead like one duck.

ALEX

You sure?

MAISIE

No mo' pulse. He no can fake dat.

JESSE

He dead. Jus' like dat? He dead?

FUZZY

Dey wen' beat him up real good ova dere. I tink because he was haole. Dey really wanted to hurt da guy. Now he dead.

IKKY

He not dead. He trying to trick us.

ALEX

He dead. Ma-ke. Dat's it.

IKKY

I like make sure.

IKKY POUNDS HIS FISTS INTO LUKE'S BODY, THEN GRABS A CUSHION AND COVERS LUKE'S FACE WITH IT.

IKKY

Die, you fucking shit, die, die!

HE PULLS LUKE TO THE FLOOR AND KICKS HIM REPEATEDLY.

MAISIE

Ikky, stop, stop already, he dead, he dead.

SHE PULLS HIM OFF.

IKKY

You fucking dead, you hear me, you fucking dead.

MAISIE LOOKS THROUGH LUKE'S POCKET AND DIGS OUT HIS WALLET.

MAISIE

His name not even Luke.

ALEX

Wat?

MAISIE

Curtis Bell. 'S his name. Curtis Bell. Picture of him wit' his wife and kids, I guess. Two boys, look like around 6 and 8.

IKKY

Da fucka was lying about everyting. I bet he was da stool pigeon all da time and dey beat him up by mistake.

ALEX

No. Dey not going make dat kine big screw-up. Somebody here stool pigeon.

JESSE

Aeh, we not going through dat again. I leaving.

FUZZY

Me too.

MAISIE

Wat about da body?

JESSE

Not my problem.

MAISIE

But no can leave him here.

JESSE

I neva hear anybody defend me. I no give a shit now.

FUZZY

I know was not me, so I no care. I going.

MAISIE

You gotta help. Alex no can handle by himself.

FUZZY

'S his problem. Not my house.

ALEX

Go, go. No need help.

MAISIE

But Alex--

ALEX

You no can force dem. Whoeva was da stoolie, he gotta live wit' dat all his life. Why he did dat? I dunno. But I guess gotta be da money.

FUZZY AND JESSE EXIT.

IKKY

Ah, I gotta go too.

MAISIE

Ikky, you no going help?

IKKY

Ethel and da kids waiting, eh. Getting late. Dey going be worried.

MAISIE

But we need you to help move da body.

IKKY

I no like get in trouble.

MAISIE

Too late. We already in trouble.

IKKY

No, no, all dis neva happen tonight. We neva kill Luke o' wateva his name. Was da company guys, not us.

MAISIE

Wat we going do wit' da body?

IKKY

I dunno. Not my business.

MAISIE

You going desert Alex afta all he did fo' you?

IKKY

Wat?

MAISIE

He wen' find you one job wen you--

ALEX

Maisie, shut up, no bring up old news. Leave 'um alone.

MAISIE

Ikky was da one who wen' doublecross you.

IKKY

Wat? Why you say dat? I no can--

MAISIE

You, Ikky, only you. All da talk about money and who wen' pull da doublecross fo' da money. Den I knew was you.

ALEX

Maisie, you talking crazy.

MAISIE

Everyting clear to me now. Wen Ethel wen' call tonight, she was so happy because, she said Ikky wen' buy plenny presents fo' her and da kids. Nice stuff fo' Christmas. She said was da first time Ikky wen' do someting nice li'dat. I tought was kinda funny wen she said dat because Ikky always saying he no mo' money. But now make sense.

ALEX

Where you wen' get da money?

IKKY

Wat? . . . I no need tell you.

ALEX

You tell me, you shit, where you wen'--

IKKY

Gambling. I won 'um in poker.

ALEX

Wit' who?

IKKY

You dunno who.

ALEX

I know all da guys we play poker wit'.

IKKY

Dese guys wen' come from outta town.

ALEX

You bullshit!

IKKY

Was one secret game.

ALEX

Why you neva tell me?

IKKY

Was last minute.

ALEX

Wen? Wat night?

IKKY

I dunno. Was, you know, was . . . I fo'get wat night.

ALEX

You lying.

MAISIE

Ikky, da company wen' pay you to spy on Alex dem. 'S dirty money, Ikky. Blood money. One man dead now

and 's your fault.

IKKY

No, why me? No.

ALEX

You did all dis fo' money. Only money. Why da fuck you did dat? Fo' fucking money? You doublecross your friends fo' fucking money?

MAISIE

You no can lie anymo'.

IKKY

I told you, I wen' win da money playing poker. I had one big winning streak and I won some big pots. Alex, I was real lucky.

ALEX

You lying bastard, you no mo' guts win da kine money in poker. I play wit' you all da time. You asshole . . . I know you. You one chicken shit bettor. You play lousy poker. No lie to me! I sick and tired of your--

ALEX GRABS THE GUN AND POINTS IT AT IKKY.

MAISIE

Alex, no . . .

THE GUN SHAKES IN ALEX'S HAND.

ALEX

You going tell me da truth. Now, right now. You going spill your guts to me o' you going get it in da guts. I mean it, You piss me off, you fucking ass! I count to t'ree. One . . . two . . .

IKKY

Da kids, Ethel, I wen' buy presents fo' dem. I love da kids and dey no mo' nuttin'. Last Christmas I neva can give dem presents. Ethel trying her best and look at me: lousy job, lousy pay, good fo' nuttin' shit. I like give dem someting special dis time. Ethel and da kids always gotta suffa because of me. 'S why I wen' buy all da presents . . . But da money . . . da money wen' come from da poker game . . . da poker game.

ALEX PUTS THE GUN DOWN.

ALEX

Go home. I tired hearing your fucking lies.

IKKY

Alex, I, I . . .

ALEX

Quit your job. I no like see you at work. I no like see your face again. Go to da odda company. Find someting else. Go 'way. Foreva. I no care where. Fuzzy, Jesse, dey neva going speak to you o' me again. Why everyting went wrong? Because of money? Fucking money! 'S why you wen' doublecross us? Go, get out now. You lucky I no shoot you. Get da hell outta here.

IKKY

Alex, I trust you all da way all da time . . . but you no trust me. I tell you I neva squeal but you no believe me. I tought you was my best friend. But best friends no going blame best friends. You not my friend.

IKKY EXITS.

MAISIE

Gotta get rid of da body.

ALEX

I can take him out to Waianae and dump him. Da police no can trace him to us. I gotta . . . I gotta . . .

HE CAN HARDLY MOVE.

MAISIE

You no can.

ALEX

Gotta get da body away.

SHE GRABS A BLANKET ON THE COUCH AND LAYS IT OUT BESIDE LUKE.

ALEX STRUGGLES TO HELP HER TURN THE BODY OVER ON TO THE BLANKET.

THEY PULL THE BLANKET DRAGGING THE BODY TO THE KITCHEN ENTRANCE.

MAISIE

I can drag him out da kitchen door and put him in da car. I know where to dump him. I know da exact spot. Dey neva going find da body.

ALEX

I gotta go wit' you.

BUT ALEX SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR.

MAISIE

No, I can do 'um myself. You stay here.

SHE HELPS HIM TO A CHAIR.

ALEX

Sorry, Maisie. I wen' screw up. I wish I neva . . .

MAISIE

Neva mind. I feel sorry fo' dis guy's wife and kids. Dey neva do nuttin' wrong. But I gotta take care of you and our baby. He not even born yet, but da baby comes first.

MAISIE DRAGS THE BODY INTO THE KITCHEN.

ALEX SITS WITH HIS HEAD DOWN.

THERE IS THE SOUND OF KITCHEN BACK DOOR SLAMMING SHUT.

THE SOUND JOLTS ALEX, WHO LOOKS UP.

HIS EYES SEARCH FOR AN ANSWER.

THEN IT HITS HIM.

ALEX

Da spy.

HE TURNS TOWARD THE KITCHEN.

ALEX

Da spy.

SLOWLY HE TURNS TO THE FRONT.

HIS EYES SHOW AWARENESS AND ANGUISH.

ALEX

Da company spy.

LIGHTS SLOWLY FADE TO BLACK ON ALEX.

THE END

(END OF PLAY)